In a further aspect the invention resides in a method of forming an article of cookware of aluminium or aluminium alloy, comprising the steps of: i) providing a disc-like blank of flat metal; ii) forming the article by stamping into the desired shape; iii) applying a first coating of porcelain slip to the exterior of the article of thickness in the range 25 to 35 microns and curing at an elevated temperature to produce a hard enamel; iv) subjecting the interior surface to hard-anodizing; v) applying a second coating of porcelain slip of thickness in the range of 30 to 35 microns over the first coating and curing to produce a hard enamel; and vi) applying a non-stick coating to the hard-anodized interior surface of the article.

Replace paragraph beginning at Page 6, line 20 with the following paragraph:

Instead of subjecting the formed article to hard-anodizing directly after forming the article is first coated with a porcelain enamel. Prior to coating it is subjected to a cleansing etch by a chemical or electrochemical etching process, as is conventional in the art. A porcelain enamel is then applied to the pan body exterior wall and base. The enamel composition is conventional in comprising a frit, colour pigments, mill addition and water mixed and ground in a ballmill for a continuous period of typically 12-14 hours. The porcelain enamel is applied as a mixture of specific viscosity of 23-25 seconds as measured by Ford cup #3 in a thickness of about 25-35 microns, more preferably 30-35 microns, and cured in a conveyor furnace. In the conveyor the article is passed through a preheat zone, a firing zone, a holding zone, and finally a cooling zone, taking typically 20 minutes to traverse the furnace. The curing starts in the firing

zone, with final curing in the holding zone. A curing metal temperature of 540-555°C is utilised with a curing time of 1 to 1.5 minutes.

Replace the paragraph beginning on Page 8, line 6 with the following paragraph:

A second porcelain coat is then applied to the exterior of the article. The same porcelain composition and viscosity are used, again in the thickness range 25-35 microns or more preferably 30-35 microns. Prior to curing, the pan can be silkscreened with any required patterns. The newly coated article is passed through a heated tunnel which includes heating means such as an LPG torch or infra-red heating to effect a rapid surface drying which creates a dry outer coat or crust. The pan base can then be subjected to the silkscreen printing. The article is then passed to the furnace conveyor for curing, at a temperature sufficient to remelt at least the surface of the first coat whereby the first and second coats bond intimately. Again a metal temperature of 540-555°C and curing time of 1 to 1.5 minutes is found to be sufficient.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 14 and 15.

Please amend claims 1, 4, 5, and 11 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of surface treating a cookware article formed of aluminium or aluminium alloy, comprising the steps of:

a) applying a first coating of porcelain enamel to the exterior of the article;